

## Secondary Programs

### Title: Tech Prep Programs

The Tech Prep program is defined as a program that provides technical preparation in a career field such as electronics technology, applied science, a mechanical, industrial or practical art or trade, agriculture, health occupations, and business or applied economics. Elements of a Tech Prep program:

- includes an articulation agreement;
- combines at least 2 years of secondary and 2 years of postsecondary education in a sequential course of study without duplication of coursework;
- integrates academic and technical education and, if appropriate and available, work-based learning;
- provides technical preparation for careers;
- builds student competence in core academic and technical areas;
- leads to an associate or a baccalaureate degree or a postsecondary certificate in a specific career field;
- leads to placement in appropriate employment or further education;
- explores opportunities to enroll students simultaneously in secondary and postsecondary coursework;
- includes in-service training for teachers and counselors; and,
- must provide equal access to special populations.

Students can use the courses that they successfully complete and had transcribed to fulfill requirements where appropriate. Thus, a student can use the articulated credit to time-shorten a program or to allow more time to enhance skills. Skill-enhanced Tech Prep programs increase the options available to students.

Tech Prep funds may be used to purchase equipment, acquire technical assistance from state and local entities with experience in Tech Prep, and establish articulation agreements with a broader array of postsecondary institutions and employers using distance learning and educational technology. Tech Prep funds may not be used to replace state and local funds for Professional-Technical Education and activities. Tech Prep funds are managed and distributed by the Idaho Division of Professional Technical Education in accordance with the State Plan required by Federal legislation and approved by the State Board for Professional-Technical Education.

Federal Regulations for Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act are located at either [www.pte.idaho.gov](http://www.pte.idaho.gov) or [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).

### Counting secondary tech prep students in Idaho

Secondary Tech Prep Student: A student will be counted as a tech prep student at the secondary level in Idaho who meets all of the following criteria:

1. A student in high school
2. Enrolled in or has been enrolled in a course in an approved Tech Prep program
3. Has submitted a Student Tech Prep Enrollment form indicating the intention to take a sequence of courses.

Official counts of secondary Tech Prep students are reported on the TP10-E form. This form is to be completed after the beginning of the last semester of the year. Both the lead instructor and regional Tech Prep coordinator sign it.

See Tech Prep in the Postsecondary Programs section for information on counting postsecondary Tech Prep students.

Contact Mike Falconer, Planner/Postsecondary Coordinator/ Tech Prep Coordinator, at 334-3216 or [mfalcone@pte.idaho.gov](mailto:mfalcone@pte.idaho.gov).

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